

# The Diplomacy Tribune<sup>©1990</sup>

October 1990

Number 19

## Things



## The Rising Cost Of Postage

"Carl" now has a boardman number and it is, 1990HS. "Carl" is a very active game, but unfortunately besides Carl Webster resigning so has Bernie Oaklyn who was playing England. Bernie has been having some health problems of late and it has forced him to drop out of the games he's in. This, of course, means that a replacement player will be needed to take his place. If anyone is interested, let me know, otherwise England will sit in civil-disorder until a replacement for Bernie is found, or England is eliminated.

In the area of resignations, we have had an epidemic here. The third resignation is that of Joe Santella playing Italy in "Abe." Joe says that "over the next several months" or more he will be tied up with something that will leave him no time for gaming. His successor will be the honorable Thomas Kille, (pronounced Kill-ee), who will be taking up his duties immediately.

As yet we still need one more player for "Donna", the "Gunboat" Diplomacy game, five for "Ed" the "Perestroika" game, and seven for "Fran" the regular Diplomacy game. Last month I sent out ten sample issues and will do the same this month, yet no one has replied. Maybe I'm just picking the wrong names off the list?

## Deadline

all games

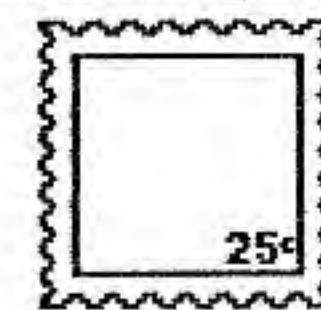
# October 26th, 1990



## Happy Halloween!



At the start of 1991 the United States Post Office intends to raise postal rates, in particular, the rate for ordinary first class letters up to an ounce will change from twenty-five cents to thirty cents. It would seem safe to assume, based on the decline in the quality of service just after the last rate increase, that service would suffer again this time. The Postmaster is not unresponsive to businesses that rely on the mail for their marketing, you know, "junk mail." Although the Bulk and Bulk-First-Class rates will increase, they won't increase by as high a percentage as we non-bulk customers will pay. Now I don't have statistics handy, but I would think it logical to assume that the advent of the FAX machine, computer services such as Compu-Serve and Prodigy, the Cellular Telephone System, and the ever growing and improving phone system, would all have taken their toll on the old fashioned notion of mailing a letter. Yet the Post Office maintains that it has an increasing work load to deal with. I don't know about you, but I would think that that load was comprised mainly of Mail-Marketing items, you know, "junk-mail."



What does this all mean? First off, businesses that use the mails for things other than sending tons of junk-mail, (ie: mail-order companies, etc.) will have to pay more for postage, which means that you and I, the ones that buy from such companies, will have this cost passed on to us in the form of higher prices. One example of this you will all notice soon will be the subscription rate increases by small newsletter and magazine services, yep the guys that publish your Diplomacy zines. How so? Well, take the Trib for example. I mail 35 issues of the Trib every month to subscribers, traders, and as samples. Under the current rate I pay \$8.75 to mail those 35 issues. With the rate increase my postal bill will climb to \$10.50, the equivalent of mailing seven more issues under today's rate every month!

[ continued next page ]



Figure this out for a zine that mails 100 or so issues a month and it gets quite astounding. The best part is, what do we get for our money? Better service, more lenient rate conditions?



After going over the cost of producing the Trib I don't foresee having to raise the subscription rate unless the Trib grows to over an once on a regular basis. I would imagine many larger zines will be forced to raise their rates and some zine may even fold, so be prepared and beware the dreaded Post Awful!

## The New Deadline

Taking into account that only builds/disbands were due this deadline, I think it went over rather well; except that I got one complaint. Not bad unless you consider that outside the games themselves, Trib subbers have very little to say regardless of what I call them. So, here it is;

"Dear Jerry,

The 26th of Sept is indeed short notice. I know that some folks consider California not a part of the U.S. and thus with a post office of it's own. Cross country mail takes from 3-7 days (4 days being average). Please note that the monthly deadline is acceptable, however I would like to urge a re-consideration of your recent close deadlines. Thank you for your consideration.

Richard Renner"

Again my reasons for changing the deadline were; I get the majority of orders by the 26th of the month, including Mr. Renner's, when the Trib gets out early (ie: the first 5 days of the month). The earlier deadline means getting the Trib out earlier so, in effect, you still the same time, it's just been moved back a week.

Of course, these are *your* games, you're playing in them, so if you have something to say, speak-up! Do you think the deadline's too short, too long, just right?



## Plugs

### Perestroika

Lawrence Cronin

### The Swiss Observer

John Armstrong

### The Boob Report

Jim Burgess

### Been There Done That

Tom Nash

### Vertigo

Brad Wilson

### Dipadeedoodah!

Phil Reynolds

### The Globe

Tom Hannah

## Unordered Disbandments

Below is the schedule for handling required disbandments of unordered units, reprinted from issue #1 of the Trib.

... the GM will select those units in the following order;

1. Fleets not on a supply center or in home country (units farthest from home centers first)
2. Armies not on a supply center or in home country (units farthest from home centers first)
3. Fleets on a supply center but not in home country (units farthest from home centers first)
4. Armies on a supply center but not in home country (units farthest from home centers first)
5. Fleets in home country but not on a supply center
6. Armies in home country but not on a supply center
7. Fleets on home centers
8. Armies on home centers



Winter 1905 Adjustments

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**KING OF ITALY ASSASSINATED!**  
**PRIME MINISTER THOMAS KILLE TAKES OVER CONTROL OF GOVERNMENT!**

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Adjustments

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**Russia (Green):** Disbands F Ska  
**Austria (Diehl):** Builds A Bud  
**France (Sweeney):** Builds A Par

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Board Status

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**England:** F Nao, F Nth, F Iri, A Lvp  
**Germany:** F Bal, A Mun, A Ber, A Kie, A Bur  
**Russia:** A Stp, A War, A Pru  
**Austria:** F Bul(sc), A Vie, A Gal, A Mos, A Boh, A Tyl, A Sil,  
                   A Sev, A Bud  
**Italy:** F Tys, F Spa(sc), F Gol, F Wme, A Pie, A Tus, A Con,  
                   A Arm  
**France:** F Por, F Bre, A Mar, A Gas, A Par

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Notice

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A proposal was submitted to concede the game to the Austro-Italian alliance, but it will not be put to your vote because of the change in the Italian government. This is a new player taking over a major position in this game which, to me, means that Abe is not "dead Jim."

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Press

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**Chancellor Beethoven:** I must be going deaf. Everyone's so quiet. I haven't heard from anyone since last May.

**Paris-World:** Ok, I'm back!

**Ber-Lon:** TAKE BELGIUM! TAKE BELGIUM! TAKE BELGIUM! COMPRENDE?

**Dr. McCoy:** (holding Abe by the wrist) He's dead, Jim!

**Mr. Scott:** (pointing) Nah Capt'n, wait, I just saw his boot twitch!

**Thought for the day:** There's nothing wrong with war, as long as it's confined to gaming.

[the following may be unsuitable for narrow conceptions of humor]

**Dateline-Berlin: Genocide in Germany!** The German government today admitted that it was killing large numbers of people in concentration camps. "We are attempting to purify society," proclaimed the chancellor, "However, we are making sure to eradicate the true scourges rather than go after a specific race or creed." He also presented to the press a list of the groups or individuals targeted by the execution camps. It included the following;

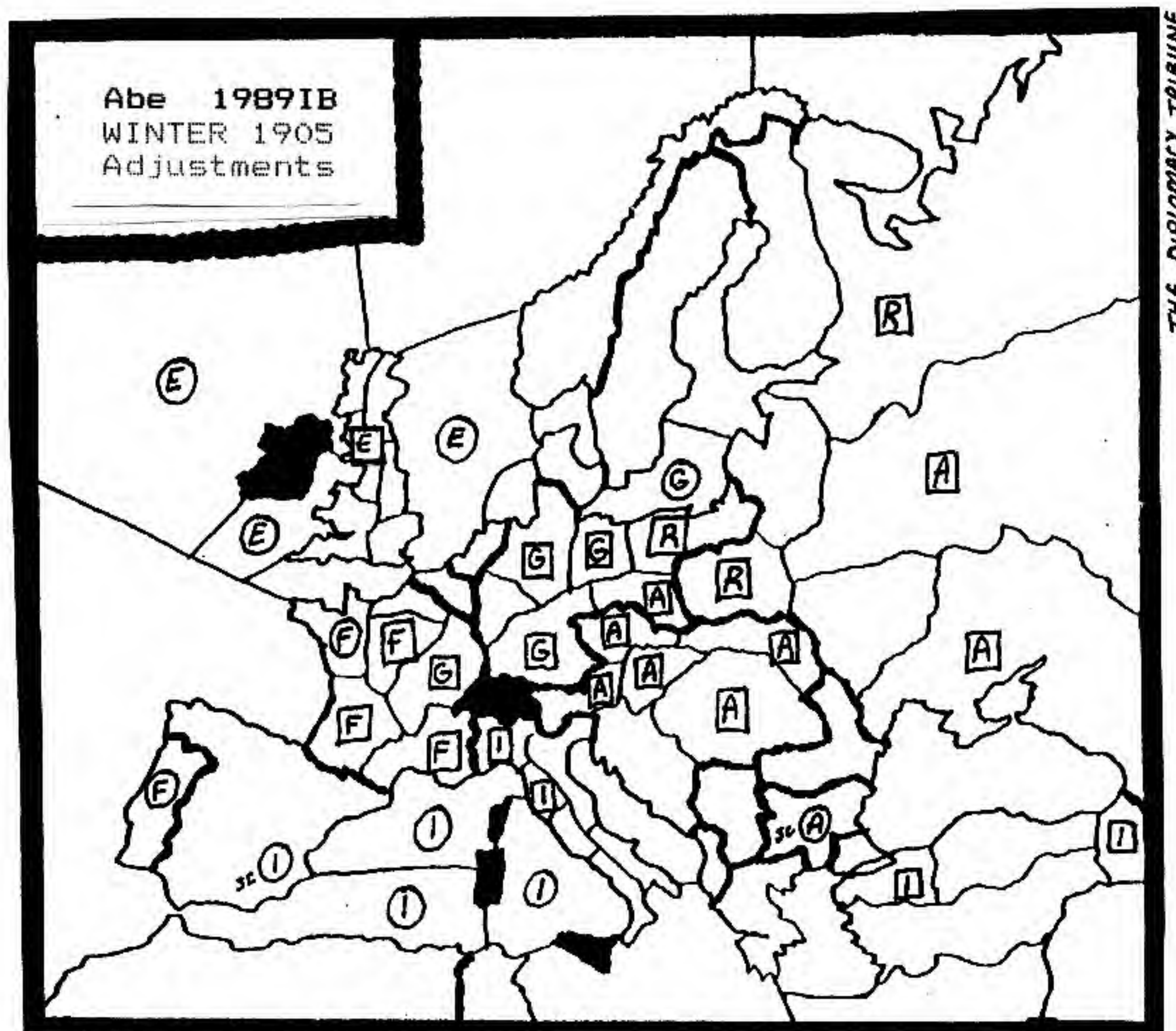
Oprah Winfree, Phil Donahue, Geraldo, and other nauseating talk show host; People that drive slow in the fast lane; lawyer & their client that file dumb lawsuits; Used car salesmen; People who pull dormitory fire alarms at 2am during finals; Driver that tailgate with brights on; J.A.P.s; Televangelists; Religious figure in politics



(including Jesse Jackson); Anyone deliberately misspelling words in the name of a business (ie: Krispy Kreme or Korect Optical); Phil Resuto; Owners of telephone party lines; Robin Leech; Drivers that honk their horns during traffic jams; People that talk during movies; Owners of cigarette companies that insist smoking is good for you; Dip player that cross-game; Fat old Nazi cops who harass all teenagers figuring they are all commie-drug-fiend-axe-murderers; Elvis fans; Mike Tyson & Robin Gibbons; Conceited Frenchmen that think they won WWII; People who are "individualist" only when everyone else is doing it; People that say "Have a nice day" but don't mean it; Donald Trump; Dan Quayle/Pat Sajack (same person?); Yoko Ono; Bikers who hold up traffic [?]; Whoever designed the DC street system [he's already dead]; Anyone displaying a "Baby on Board" sign; Bleeding hearts that claim terrorist, rapist, & mass murderers are people too; White collar criminals that favor tougher law enforcement; people that still like disco or anything from the 70's; My ex-girlfriend; Whiners; Silly socialists

According to sociologists, the shocking rates of genocide will reduce the country to less than 100 considerate, intelligent, and fun-to-be-with people in less than a year. The German government asks all countries, allies and enemies alike, to deport all mentioned individuals to Germany. Also fee free to mention any annoying or stupid people we missed. We thank you for your support.

Due Next: Spring 1906 Moves





Winter 1904 Adjustments
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 Adjustments
 

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Germany (Diehl): Disband F Hel  
 Turkey (Schultz): Build A Smy  
 Austria (Wiess): No Build Order Received  
 Italy (Kirk): No Disband Order Received, F Tys disbanded

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 Board Status
 

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England: F Lon, F Ech, F Nws  
 Germany: F Nth, F Den, A Yor  
 Russia: F Nwy, A Liv, A Mos, A Stp  
 Turkey: F Sev, F Ion, F Aeg, F Apu, A Ukr, A War, A Smy  
 Austria: F Adr, A Ber, A Ven, A Tri, A Boh, A Sil  
 Italy: F Nap, A Rom, A Naf  
 France: F Mao, F Nao, A Bre, A Mun, A Ruh, A Bel, **ABKR**

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 Press
 

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**Turkey-Las Vegas:** 2/1! You must be joking. How do you expect me to make any money betting on myself with odds like that! Let me trade odds with England. Come on, how 'bout it?

**Fra-Aus:** Please call or write me so that we can hammer out an ironclad deal with no chance of deceptions or last minute decisions. This last move was a mistake.

**Tur-Eng:** Welcome to the game. Did your predecessor make a lot of enemies for you or what?

**Turkish BB/Austrian BB:** Good job Emp. When you reach Rome how about an Islamic/Catholic summit?

**Fra-Tur:** Please write me. Did you ever get the letter I wrote you six weeks ago? I have been very busy with England, Germany & Italy and I do apologise for not writing sooner.

**Tur-Ita:** You have been a very polite neighbor and I for one appreciate your efforts. Don't take it personally. As I've said before, if you had been there from the start thing could have been different. As it stands now, you'd be too dangerous to let survive.

**Anonymous Mucksucker:** France was really stupid to listen to Italy's frantic last minute phone call about an Austrian attack last turn.

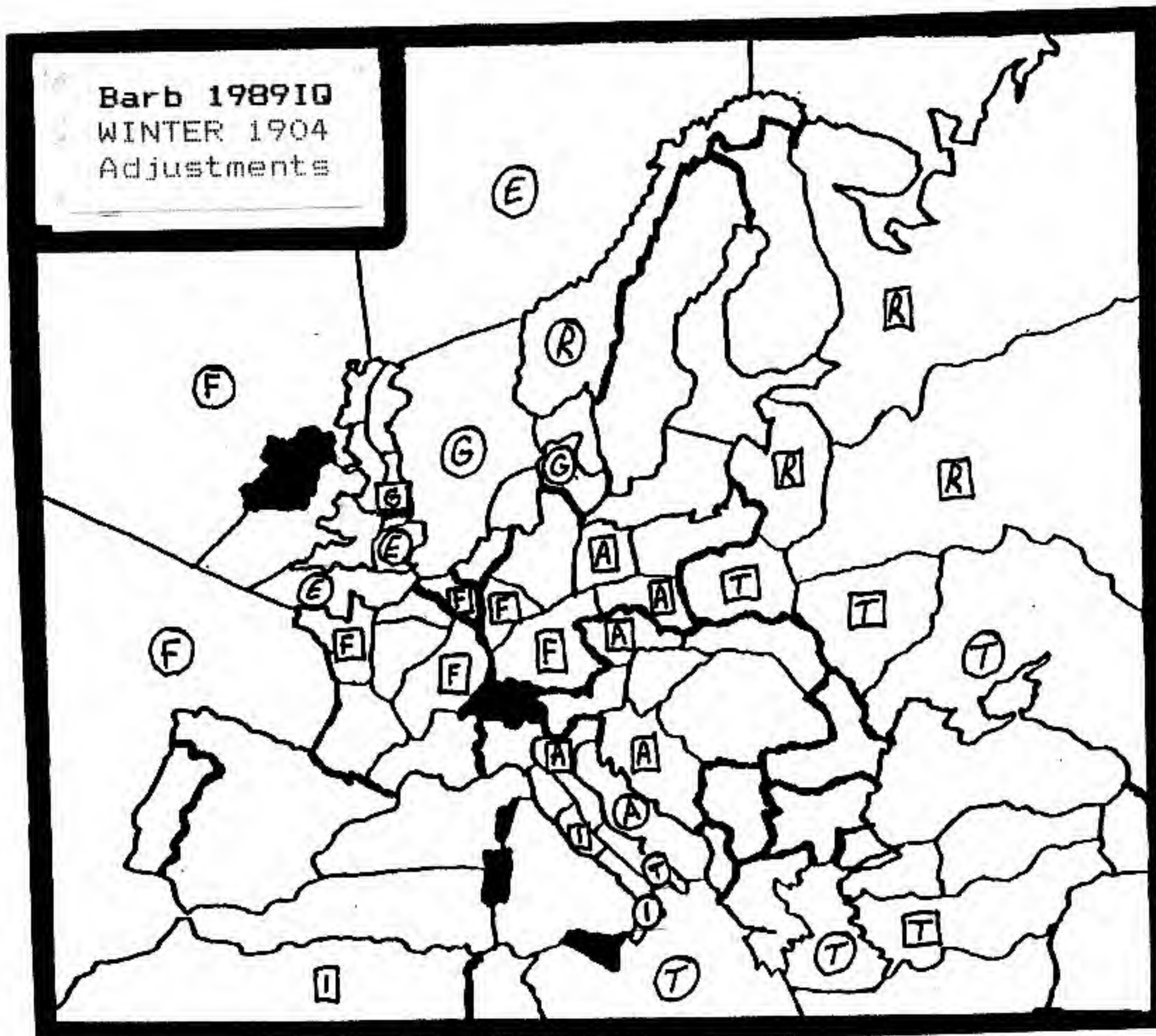
**Fra-Eng:** My heart is broken that you do not write or call me anymore and what is this talk of a backstab?

**Fra-Ger:** I agree to all of your terms.

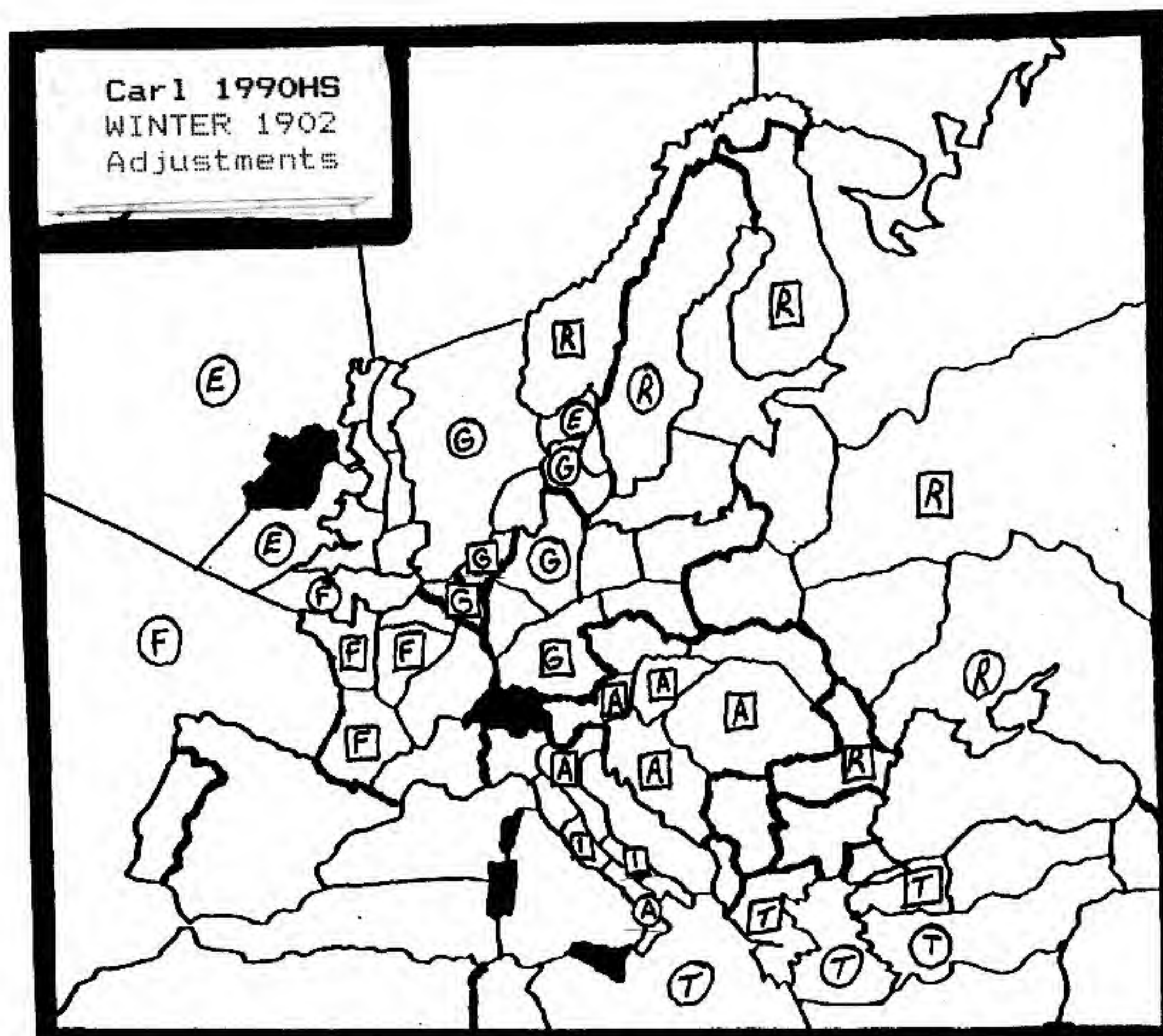
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Due Next: Spring 1905 Moves





THE DIPLOMACY TRIBUNE



THE DIPLOMACY TRIBUNE



Winter 1902 Adjustments

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**ENGLAND'S PRIME MINISTER IN ASYLUM?  
GOVERNMENT FALTERING!**

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Adjustments

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**England** (Oaklyn): Disband A Bur  
**Germany** (Burgess): Build F Kie  
**Russia** (Renner): Build F Stp(nc)  
**Turkey** (Armstrong): Build F Smy  
**Austria** (Johnson): Build A Vie  
**Italy** (civil disorder): Disband A Tun, F Adr

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Board Status

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**England:** F Nao, F Iri, F Ska  
**Germany:** F Kie, F Nth, F Den, A Mun, A Bel, A Hol  
**Russia:** F Swe, F Sev, F Stp (nc), A Rum, A Mos, A Fin, A Nwy  
**Turkey:** F Aeg, F Ion, F Smy, A Gre, A Con  
**Austria:** F Nap, A Ven, A Tri, A Bud, A Tyl, A Vie  
**Italy:** A Apu, A Rom  
**France:** F Mao, F Ech, A Bre, A Par, A Gas

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Press

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**A Note From Richard Renner:** The U.S. Post Office is still trying to work with the multiple San Jose ZIP codes. I will let you know when (if?) they decide. Meanwhile, the ZIP code 95123 remains valid. Thank you all for your patience.

**Vienna-Istanbul:** Writing threatening press to no one now? Looks as if your little Italian buddy does not exist anymore. Where is your help now, little Sultan? Check your crystal ball, maybe it can help.

**Ankara, a brief stroll from Istanbul:** ....suddenly, there was a blinding flash and the entire area was engulfed in smoke. Gradually the smoke cleared to reveal the crone standing at the base of a Greek style column. She looked about the area she had become so familiar with. Three years has it been? ...she walked through the garden and noticed the tree she had planted now stood tall and proud, comparable to it's peers which had been there much longer. How quickly it had grown, indeed. She smiled with anticipation for it would soon bear fruit. ...she turned to her cauldren. "Double, double, toil and trouble. Pasta burn and seize the rubble." Suddenly, her head jerked up with surprise. She glanced about suspiciously, feeling a change in the wind. Dead autumn leaves began to collect at her feet. "By the pricking of my thumbs, something wicked this way comes." she said paying close attention to the dark brooding sky overhead. Adding another ingrediant to the brew she mumbled an incantation. There was another deafening rumble of thunder and flash of lightning but she laughed them off. Finishing her incantation, she wandered off to her garden muttering something about "doing unto others before..."

A piano was heard playing nearby...

**Slogan for the National Knife Association:** Diplomacy players don't stab Diplomacy players. Diplomacy players stab themselves...by either being too annoying or leaving themselves wide open.



**The Secret Muckraker:** Germany & France had better get tight. Once England & Italy have fallen by the wayside Russia & Turkey will swallow them whole if they fight each other. Only a strong pact between Berlin & Paris will save Europe.

**Anonymous:** Russia has no enemies, we better get him.

**Gravenhage, almost scraping the Kaiser's boots:** The Fog of War is upon the English as the might and right of Germany and France show the tyrants for what they really are...each another Saddened Hussain, each running all over the territory of another nation, each threatening with atomic destruction, each engaged in an unholy war. We here in England vow to seek out and destroy ole Saddened Himselflessness, and to mar the countryside with the corpses of all Iraqi's that stand in the way. After all, all it will take is a few napaums, that being slightly after we take out thier missile sites, and just as we drop down out of the skies a rain of terror from our high flying bombers. Just think! Ten million martyrs! [He then ran down the hall, laughing maniacally.]

**Rome:** Italy is in chaos, the entire country is in panic as news of the Austrian invasion comes in. The Italian military has disintegrated as well with the fleet scuttling in Montenegro, and the Tunisia garrison fleeing into the desert upon hearing of a Turkish squadron heading towards Tunis. Only two Italian armies are in the lines facing the Austrian forces, but their command is in a shambles and they are not expected to hold for long.

**London:** No reliable word can be had concerning the state of the Prime Minister as yet, and the Government is a wreck. With the North Sea squadron destroyed and the Expeditionary Army lost the people feel a German/French invasion is imminent. Unfortunately the news from anywhere in Europe is difficult to grasp since the continent's press agencies have taken up with such metaphorical reporting techniques. The simplest of events takes on the air of surrealism and the occult. If the nations of Europe have formal positions on the state of the continent, this reporter is unable to fathom what they may be.

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Due Next: Spring 1903 Moves